Sunday September 04, 2022
Faith and Science
Part 1: Can Science Explain It All?

Welcome to this sermon series on "Faith and Science".

This will be a five-part sermon series
Sunday September 04: Can Science explain it all?
Sunday September 11: The Six days of Genesis
Sunday September 18: Origins of the Cosmos
Sunday September 25: Creator God?
Sunday October 02: Origin of the Species

Our intent is to address some of the common questions that arise in conversations around faith and science. Questions about the existence of God, origin of this universe, origin of life, the creation account as given in the book of Genesis in the Bible, and faith and science – is it possible to be a person of faith, while engaging in science, and so on? Our goal is to address these questions in as simple a manner as possible and share information that will be useful.

A list of books/materials that were researched and used in compiling information for this sermon series in available in the sermon notes. Sermon notes for each sermon will be made available through our church website. You can go to the URL: **apcwo.org/faithandscience** to download these.

You are welcome to email your questions and feedback to us using : questions@apcwo.org or at feedback@apcwo.org

[FYI: Scripture references are taken from the New American Standard Bible 2020, The Lockman Foundation]

TODAY: CAN SCIENCE EXPLAIN IT ALL?

SCIENCE AND THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

Simply stated, science is the systematic study of the natural world through observation and experiment and the application of that knowledge.
The scientific methodology normally includes the following:
Objective observation: Measurement and data of evidence, experiment and/or observation

Induction: reasoning to establish general rules or conclusions drawn from facts or examples
Repetition: check if data is reproducible, predictable
Critical analysis: drawing inferences, establishing laws
Verification and testing: critical exposure to scrutiny, peer review and assessment

Science is a discovery and learning process that is ongoing, with much left to be explored and understood.

Often in science we begin with a hypothesis or a presupposition and then attempt to prove it or disprove it using the scientific method.

FAITH AND ITS BASIS

Faith is a belief held in the inner person (heart, spirit), an inner recognition (revelation) and conviction which is substantiated through observation, reasoning, and experience, while faith always remaining greater than observation, reasoning, and experience. This means that there are aspects of faith that cannot be completely explained.

CAN PEOPLE OF FAITH ENGAGE IN SCIENCE AND THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD?

In the history of modern science many of the great pioneers—Galileo, Kepler, Pascal, Boyle, Newton, Faraday and Clerk-Maxwell—were all firm and convinced believers in God.

You can believe in God and still be a scientist. Faith in God does not cripple one's scientific abilities.

So also, today. We have a long list of modern-day scientists at Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and many other places, who are at the top of their fields and also strong believers in God.

The notion that a person of faith is superstitious and ignorant is false.

As we continue discussing science, we ask a very basic question:

CAN SCIENCE EXPLAIN EVERYTHING?

John Lennox is Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford and an Emeritus Fellow in Mathematics and Philosophy of Science at Green Templeton College,

Oxford University, along with several other credentials. In responding to this question "Can science explain everything?" he shares several insights, some of which we will present to you.

The study of science includes the study of ourselves as human beings – our body, mind, behavior, culture, society, and so on. Unlike inanimate matter, as human beings we seek meaning. For us humans, the where, who, why and how about our existence is very important.

CAN SCIENCE PROVIDE ANSWERS FOR THESE BIG QUESTIONS OF LIFE?

	Christian Faith	Atheistic/Naturalism
1. Origin: Where did we come from?	God created us for a purpose	We evolved over time from primitive forms
2. Identity: Who are we?	People made in God's image	Just a higher life form, "blobs of organized mud"
3. Meaning: Why are we here?	To glorify God, serve His purposes	Find your own purpose
4. Morality: How should we live?	Biblical standards	Relativism-each one defines their own morality
5. Destiny: Where are we going?	An eternity with God	Nothing beyond this life

CAN SCIENCE EXPLAIN WHY THINGS ARE THE WAY THEY ARE?

Science tells us about the existence of the law of gravity. It tells us what the law is and how it can be harnessed. For instance, using the law of gravity we can calculate the velocity a rocket needs to attain to escape the earth's gravitational field, and we can do the calculations needed to send a probe to Mars. But the law of gravity does not tell us why it is there, how did it come into existence.

CAN SCIENCE CREATE THE LAWS OF NATURE?

Similarly, the laws of nature that science discovers, does not cause what they describe to come into existence. The law of gravity does not create gravity, it only describes something about what is already existing. The laws are not intelligent or powerful enough to bring something into existence and provide it meaning and purpose. The laws only describe the intelligence that is already in existence and can be applied to things that already exist. Theories and laws do not bring matter or energy or anything else into existence.

HAS SCIENCE DONE AWAY WITH GOD?

Not a "god of the gaps"

The God of the Bible is not a "god of the gaps", a placeholder of things we do not understand, so that this god is slowly done away with, as we come to understand more and more through scientific discovery. The God of the Bible is the God of the whole, the God of everything, things we understand and things we do not understand. He made them all.

Not a material god

The God of the Bible is not a material god conjured up by ancient men to represent some part of the material world (e.g. lightning, thunder, wind, etc.), and hence can be done away by modern man. The God of the Bible was there before the material world and was the One who created the material world.

Human reason did not create this universe

Human reason came after the universe was brought into being, and human reason is still learning about the universe in which it is in. The universe came first and then came science that discovers the universe. Secondly, human reason did not create the ability to reason – rationality. We can develop our ability to reason, but we cannot create the ability to reason.

SCIENCE DONE RIGHT

The more we understand about the complexity of something, the more we admire the mind of the one who brought it into being.

C.S. Lewis: "Men became scientific because they expected Law in Nature, and they expected Law in Nature because they believed in a Legislator." [C.S. Lewis, Miracles (Simon and Schuster, 1996), p 140.]

DOES SCIENCE INHERENTLY INCLUDE A LEAP OF FAITH?

It is often touted that atheists do not have faith. But they essentially do. First, we must recognize that atheists have belief in their atheistic philosophy of naturalism.

Secondly, they believe that scientific theories and laws could bring something out of nothing, provide design and intelligence, meaning and purpose, a sense of morality and rationality – all of which have not been scientifically proven. Atheist philosophy starts with matter/energy (or with "nothing") and claims that natural processes and nature's laws, wherever they came from, produced from nothing all that there is—the cosmos, the biosphere and the human mind. Isn't this a big leap of faith?

Thirdly, we know that not all scientific theories have been proven. Modern science approaches its aim by making controlled and replicable experiments with isolated natural systems. Of course, it also relies on hypotheses that are not themselves empirically verifiable (such as the supposition that nature can be described mathematically).

IS BELIEF IN GOD A DELUSION?

Delusion, a term from psychiatry meaning a persistent false belief held in the face of strong contrary evidence.

If God does exist, then atheism is the grand delusion, an escape from the reality of a Creator, a blissful avoidance of the truth that there is life hereafter, and one must stand in judgement before God. "There is no heaven or afterlife...that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark" [Stephen Hawking]	**If God does not exist**, then faith in God is the grand delusion. "Atheism is a fairy story for people afraid of the light" [John C. Lennox]

DOES SCIENCE CONTRADICT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH?

It is a wrong presupposition that science and the Christian faith do not mix.

Science is an investigation into God's creation and therefore does not contradict the Christian faith. You can believe in God and still be a scientist. Faith in God does not cripple one's scientific abilities. In the history of modern science many of the great pioneers—Galileo, Kepler, Pascal, Boyle, Newton, Faraday and Clerk-Maxwell—were all firm and convinced believers in God.

Psalm 115:16
The heavens are the heavens of the LORD, But the earth He has given to the sons of mankind.

God has entrusted the earth to us – for us to discover, study, steward and use.

Isaiah 28:23-29
23 Listen and hear my voice, Pay attention and hear my words.

24 Does the farmer plow continually to plant seed? Does he continually turn and break up his ground?
25 Does he not level its surface And sow dill and scatter cumin And plant wheat in rows, Barley in its place and rye within its area?
26 For his God instructs and teaches him properly.
27 For dill is not threshed with a threshing sledge, Nor is the cartwheel driven over cumin; But dill is beaten out with a rod, and cumin with a club.
28 Grain for bread is crushed, Indeed, he does not continue to thresh it forever. Because the wheel of his cart and his horses eventually damage it, He does not thresh it longer.
29 This also comes from the LORD of armies, Who has made His counsel wonderful and His wisdom great.

This passage in Isaiah informs us that God empowers us in our investigation and discovery of His creation, so that we can harness it for our benefit.

Romans 1:20
For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

In the cell, in light, in water, in the design of the human body, in the positioning of earth as a planet, and in so many other ways, we see the immense works of God.

Psalm 8:3-4
3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have set in place;
4 What is man that You think of him, And a son of man that You are concerned about him?

CONCLUSION
Faith and science does not have to be in conflict with each other.
Faith and science can be held complementing each other.
We can be people of faith and people of science.
Science points us to the greatness of the One who created it all.

LIVE STREAM AUDIENCE
Thank you for joining us online.
Post service call to action - Like, Share and Subscribe, if in Bangalore come to any one of our Sunday services.

SALVATION CALL (BY YOUR FREE CHOICE AND FREE WILL)

If you ask, does God love me? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 3:16, Romans 5:8
If you ask, how can I have my sins forgiven? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 10:43; 1 John 2:2,12
If you ask, what is the way to God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 14:6
If you ask, how can I become a child of God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 1:12
If you ask, where can I find salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 4:12
If you ask, what must I do to experience salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 16:30-31
As an act of your own free choice, we invite you to make this decision to follow Jesus.

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday September 04, 2022
Faith and Science
Part 1: Can Science Explain It All

The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation
To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our sermons page . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome
The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word
Read the following Scripture references: *Psalm 115:16; Isaiah 28:23-29; Romans 1:20; Psalm 8:3-4*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together
Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

Q1, Discuss, what should a believer's approach be towards science? Should the believer stay away from science completely? Should his faith be subject to science, or would there be times when faith overrides science? How does a believer hold faith and science in right balance?

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey
Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another
Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:
1, families to be protected and strengthened
2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.
3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.
YOUTUBE: https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore
WEBSITE: https://apcwo.org/live

Our other websites and free resources:
CHURCH: https://apcwo.org
FREE SERMONS: https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons
FREE BOOKS: https://apcwo.org/books/english
DAILY DEVOTIONALS: https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional
JESUS CHRIST: https://examiningjesus.com
BIBLE COLLEGE: https://apcbiblecollege.org
E-LEARNING: https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn
WEEKEND SCHOOLS: https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools
COUNSELING: https://chrysalislife.org
MUSIC: https://apcmusic.org
MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: https://pamfi.org
CHURCH APP: https://apcwo.org/app
CHURCHES: https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches
WORLD MISSIONS: https://apcworldmissions.org

SERMON OUTLINE

In this sermon series on faith and science, our intent is to address some of the common questions that arise in conversations around faith and science. Questions about the existence of God, origin of this universe, origin of life, the creation account as given in the book of Genesis in the Bible, and faith and science – is it possible to be a person of faith, while engaging in science, and so on? Our goal is to address these questions in as simple a manner as possible and share information that will be useful. This is a five-part sermon series. Part-1: Can Science explain it all? Part-2: The Six days of Genesis. Part-3: Origins of the Cosmos. Part-4: Creator God? Part-5: Origin of the Species.

KEYWORDS :

Faith and science, religion and reason, cosmology, evolutionary biology, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

John C. Lennox "Can science explain everything?" 2019, ISBN (ebook): 9781784984120
answersingenesis.org

creationtraining.org

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Thayer's Greek Definitions. Published in 1886, 1889; public domain.

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, Strong's Exhaustive Concordance by James Strong, S.T.D., LL.D. Published in 1890; public domain.

Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, © 1984, 1996, Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville, TN

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Word Studies in the New Testament. Marvin R. Vincent, D.D. (1886)